



**SECRET SENSITIVE**

ATTACHES

Approved For Release 2003/10/22 : CIA-RDP80R01731R001900100018-6  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

16 JUL 1973

S-10,064/AA-1

SUBJECT: Mission of the Defense Attache System (U)

TO: All Defense Attaches

1. (C) At several of the Defense Attache Offices (DAO) which I have visited since becoming Director, DIA, I have found that there is some uncertainty on the part of the defense attache as to his precise mission and that of the Defense Attache System (DAS). I think it is important that each attache have a clear picture of his mission and that of the DAS and that he be able to describe it in appropriate detail to any official visitor and to other members of the Embassy.
2. (C) DoD Directive C-5105.32, revised 23 March 1973 contains the official statement of the mission of the DAS. The mission statement portion of that directive prescribes a four-fold mission for the DAS; to collect and report military and political-military intelligence, to perform representational functions, to perform security assistance functions where assigned by the Secretary of Defense, and to provide armed forces attaches on Embassy staffs. It lays the groundwork for considering the DAO to be the focus for all Department of Defense activity in a foreign country. It provides that other United States military elements in such country may be attached or assigned to the DAO.
3. (C) The basic collection and reporting guidance document for use by all intelligence collection elements of DoD is DIAM 58-1, Intelligence Acquisition Manual. Paragraph 7 (Information Reporting) Part One (General Collection Policy Guidance) of DIAM 58-1 is under revision. Guidance will include a statement to the effect that Defense Attaches (DATT's) will forward all intelligence information directly to DIA even though it appears to be of primary interest to one of the Services. Dissemination of information copies to appropriate Service will be authorized.

DIA review(s)  
completed.

Classified by..... DIA AA-1  
SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION  
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652  
AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED AT TWO  
YEAR INTERVALS  
DECLASSIFIED ON 31 DECEMBER 1981

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4. (U) Amplification of the DAS representation mission is contained in Joint Chiefs of Staff Memorandum (SM-50-71), subject: Representational Responsibilities of the Defense Attache System (U), dated 28 January 1971. A copy of the memorandum was forwarded to each DAO by DIA letter C-10,045/AA-1 of the same subject dated 10 February 1971.

5. (S) Joint Chiefs of Staff Memorandum (SM-389-69), subject: Implementing Instructions for [redacted] DIA  
25X1  
and Defense Attache Offices on Intelligence Matters (S/NFD) provides guidance directing cooperation between Chiefs of  
DIA25X1 [redacted] and DATT's on intelligence matters. The SM is being revised to include a statement  
DIA25X1 [redacted] to the effect that all intelligence information acquired by  
[redacted] will be passed to the DATT for transmission to DIA.

6. (C) Recently the Directorate for Attache Affairs has provided each DAO with a detailed mission statement tailored to the requirements and abilities of each such office. That detailed mission statement is intended to provide the basic framework for the Operations and Collection Plan of each office. It will also be useful in measuring the effectiveness of each attache office and its members.

7. (C) Using the documents referred to, above, you should develop at each of your offices a formal briefing outline for use in explaining your mission and functions to visiting officials and to other members of the Embassy. Each attache in your office should be familiar with this briefing outline and be prepared to use it when presenting briefings in the absence of the Defense Attache (DATT).

8. (C) As a result of my recent visits, I have also a few remarks to make about performance of the representational mission.

a. Each attache represents the Department of Defense in a foreign country and in addition represents his own military service. DIA has previously stated that "representational functions enhance and are often essential to the collection of intelligence information" (Distribution "G" Letter, C-10,045/AA-1, paragraph 4 above). I am aware that no representational funds are provided to an attache office [redacted]

DIA25X1 [redacted] This absence of representational funds may cause unjustified personal expense to an attache. It has been possible at some attache offices to obtain reimbursement either from embassy representational funds or from representational funds of the attache's service. We are developing a more organized approach to this problem.

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b. I believe that we should use extreme economy in diverting the resources of the office to meet official visitors at airports and even more economy in the services which we provide to unofficial visitors. In meeting official visitors it is certainly not necessary for more than one attache to meet the visitor. Depending on the importance of the visitor and other circumstances, it may be appropriate simply to send a vehicle; there may also be occasions when it is appropriate for the visitor to use a taxi or public transportation.

c. I desire that the DATT be the single point of responsibility to me for all collection activities in the intelligence area and for the complete administration of the office, but I also desire to preserve the stature and status of the principal attaches of each service. It is good practice for the DATT to use every opportunity to provide the principal attaches of the other services with exposure to the Chief of Mission and to insist upon it when matters relating to that other attache's service are being considered. If an ambassador will permit all principal attaches to attend country team or embassy staff meetings, this should be urged by the DATT. A principal attache from another service should be given considerable autonomy in his dealings with the corresponding host country service. It may be sufficient if the DATT is merely kept informed of what is going on in this area. It is also normally good practice for an assistant attache assigned to an office to be in fact the assistant of the principal attache from his service rather than merely one among several action officers for the DATT.

9. (U) This letter should be shown to all attaches.



V. P. de FOIX  
Vice Admiral, USN  
Director

**SECRET 3 SENSITIVE**

ORIGINATOR AA-1		DATED 16 Jul 73		CLASSIFICATION SECRET/SEN		CONTROL NUMBER S-10,064/AA-1	
DATE RECEIVED IN DIA		EXPENSE DATE		REGISTERED NUMBER		FILE DESIGNATION	
DESCRIPTION OF MATERIAL  Letter to all Attaches, Subj: Mission of the Defense Attache System (U) from Adm dePoix. (S/SEN)							
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1 CIA				4			
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